We are mourning the recent death of Walter Murphy, our longest serving board member in the history of our organization.

Walter was first elected to what was then NeBCOA’s Board of Directors on September 25, 1975. His father also served for many years. He witnessed many changes throughout the years, including the manner in which alcoholism and drug addiction are viewed and treated.

He was a very active board participant, and through his many contacts in the area helped the nonprofit through some very challenging fiscal times.

In 2002, NeBCOA became a wholly owned affiliate of High Point Treatment Center. Walter carried on his board duties, right up until his passing, serving on both the High Point and SEMCOA boards. He epitomizes what every organization seeks in a board member: dedication, a belief in the mission, and the willingness to undertake additional duties when called upon.

He was a gentleman and will be missed.

Appreciation for a Long-time Volunteer

By Jennifer Gearhart, LICSW
Director of Community-based Behavioral Health

High Point’s home-based programs are now four months old. The first program is outpatient mental health services to children, adolescents, families, and adults in the home.

This service is needed for individuals and families who would benefit more from receiving counseling in their own environment.

The second outpatient home-based services are those provided under the umbrella of the Children’s Behavioral Health Initiative (CBHI). These are intensive home-based services for children and families suffering from complex mental health diagnoses. The services are family-focused with the goal of preventing out of home placement of the children. The goal is also to improve family functioning as a unit.

There are two CBHI services High Point is

High Point’s Newest Program: Home-based Services

Outpatient Clinic Opens

New Bedford’s Purchase Street Outpatient clinic and most of Belleville clinic’s staff are now calling 68 North Front Street in New Bedford home. Staff made the move in March.

Parking is available at the clinic and at a lot across the street.

Please see “Clinic” page 4

New Chapters Celebrates 1st Anniversary

Bright spring skies helped usher in New Chapters’ one-year anniversary open house on April 15. Program Director Tom Burns and staff presented a program overview for invitees. Former and current clients also shared their stories.

House tours followed the presentation.
High Point Hospital
Opening This Month

High Point’s eagerly anticipated psychiatric hospital in Middleborough is right on schedule to open this month.

Staff actually began moving in last month. An official ribbon cutting is slated for June 12. On June 13, there is an open house for the community from 10 AM to 2 PM.

There will be three adults units and one adolescent unit. A centralized admissions department will also be based at the site, in addition to an Outpatient clinic, which is scheduled to open its doors in September.

A job fair was held in April at Middleborough’s library for residents interested in positions. Approximately 100 people turned out for it.

Empowerment and Parallel Process

By Charlie Carroll
Director of Clinical Services

The chronic perception by our clientele is that they are powerless over their drug/substance/behavior and ultimately over their lives.

It may be the case that we, ourselves, can relate only too easily to this concept. We spent a seriously annoying winter dealing with Mother Nature intent on proving how powerless life can feel. When work conditions are stressful and support feels minimal, our energy to bring hope and influence change are compromised. This happens at every level of care within a system.

It is hard to shift the process once it is in motion. If we perceive that we are being supported, then we will be supportive. If we experience a sense of being controlled, then we will in turn use control as a means to deliver our service. If creative solutions are found to solve day to day issues, then we will be creative with our clients and our staff. If the process is rigid, then we will be rigid and dogmatic.

Ultimately, the goal with our clients and each other is to be compassionate, effective, creative, supportive, consistent, and most of all, respectful. We need to continue to recognize the impact of our interactions and decisions.

We need to empower each other so we can empower our clients.

Our task is difficult and challenging, so is theirs. The inspiration for these thoughts is driven, not by the observation that we are failing, but that we are being successful despite the challenges we all face.

Maintaining awareness of our mission, being mindful around our behavior, and providing quality care is what happens every day and makes our work meaningful.
Collaboration is Critical in Addiction Work

By Hillary Dubois
Coalition Coordinator
Brockton Mayor’s Opioid Overdose Prevention Coalition

Collaboration is crucial for effective coalition work. When the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) funded regional clusters with the Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative grant, cooperative work was of upmost importance to maximize the efforts of a single group.

On Friday, March 27th, the Brockton Area Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative in partnership with the Quincy area MOAPC cluster hosted a “Scope of Pain” training, offering prescribers required continuing medical education credits for safe opioid prescribing.

This free half day-long conference, held at Lombardo’s in Randolph, also provided prescribers with information around addiction, nasal naloxone, prevention work, in addition to creating community partnerships. Continuing education credits were made available for doctors, dentists, pharmacists, physician’s assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurses.

Given the opioid crisis in the state, trainings such as this one are critical.

Support Us Thru Vehicle Donation Program

Supporters of High Point and SEMCOA have been donating their used vehicles to DonationLine, which we have been partnering with for well over three years now.

If you would like to help us and give back in some way, this vehicle donation program may be something to consider. We accept vehicle donations (car, truck, boat, RV, Jet Ski, or snowmobile) whether they run or not. Call DonationLine (877-227-7487, ext. 2764).

Or, simply go online:


Specify whether you want HPTC or SEMCOA to benefit. Either way, you receive a tax deduction, and there is no towing fee.

Monarch & WRAP Benefit From Raffles

By Lise Reed, Program Director
Monarch & WRAP Houses

We raised $1,257 during the annual staff recognition event in January. Every year a program is chosen to benefit from raffling ‘sharing and caring’ baskets donated by staff.

This amount is the most money raised since the fund-raiser’s inception in 2011. Proceeds will help both of our women’s residential programs meet expenses.

Brockton’s Home to New Primary Care Clinic

High Point Treatment Center’s long-awaited primary care clinic opened on March 23 at Brockton’s Meadowbrook campus. The primary care is being overseen by Dr. Gonzalez.

Let Us Hear From You!

If you have moved, know someone who would enjoy this newsletter, or if you wish to no longer receive this quarterly newsletter, please let us know by e-mailing Marion at moliveira@hptc.org.
“Clinic” Continued from page 1

A parking lot on Logan Street is also within walking distance. Some counseling services are remaining at 497 Belleville Avenue.

Outpatient Services to be Held at Hospital

Beginning in September, High Point outpatient services can be accessed in Middleborough at High Point Hospital, located at 52 Oak Street. More information will be available in the next newsletter due out in September.

“CBHI” Continued from page 1

providing. The first is in-home therapy (IHT). This is an intensive family-focused outpatient service delivered by a team consisting of a Master’s level clinician and a paraprofessional. The team works with the family to create and implement a treatment plan.

The second service is called therapeutic mentoring (TM). This is a one to one service provided to a child under the age of 21. A paraprofessional will work with youth on a skill set deficit such as anger management or poor social skills. The goal is to help the youth improve these skills, so they can function better within their home and community.

High Point is providing these services at all of its outpatient sites.

VIVERAE, Formerly ONEHEALTH, Changes Access to Social Network Platform

By Anne Zarleno, Director of Training & Development

VIVERAE Health, which recently purchased OneHealth, is rebranding its product line, deciding that the behavioral health social network platform will only be offered to health insurance member organizations.

This is quite a loss to our clients, our alumni, and our staff who have taken advantage of the tremendous recovery and life-changing social networking supports.

Help us save postage and the environment by having our newsletter e-mailed to you. Please send your e-mail address to Marion at moliveira@hptc.org.

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, you can e-mail Marion, or send request to

High Point/SEMCOA, 98 N. Front St. 3 FL, New Bedford, MA 02740

Please, Keep in Touch!
Living in treatment can be difficult. Residents wake up, eat breakfast, clean, go to appointments, eat lunch, clean again, attend case management sessions, prepare and eat dinner, clean again, and go to night meetings.

Next, it’s snack time, clean-up, and bed. Residents then wake up and do it all over again. This can get monotonous at times, and though there is usually more to do than that, early on it can be frustrating for participants adhering to a routine. Residents at Monarch House participate in the program to get ready to integrate back into the community as mothers, sisters, and daughters.

For Mother’s Day, therefore, Monarch and Wrap House staff thought “what better way to celebrate” than to celebrate ALL women in recovery. For the second year in a row, the program hosted a brunch that staff made for residents May 8th.

Brunch began with a fruit cup, followed by eggs, bacon, home-fries, French toast casserole and roll-ups, monkey bread, and assorted pastries with Christine Dalton’s famous hand-dipped strawberries completing the meal.

Staff decorated the dining area, served, and cleaned up, too. Each resident was presented with a carnation after the meal. To conclude the day, all residents and most staff went to Buttonwood Park where basketball, badminton, and volleyball were available for them to play. There were stories shared and laughs to go around on this beautiful day. Everyone left with bellies and spirits filled!